

REMARKS

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 3, 11, 14, 15, 17–22 and 55-61 have been amended. No claims have been added.

Claims 1, 3, 11-14, 16-19 and 55-56 are pending and under examination. Claims 2, 15, 20-22 and 57-61 are withdrawn and subject to rejoinder pending allowability of a base claim.

The claims have been renumbered as noted by the Examiner, and Applicants have proceeded to amend the dependencies of various claims accordingly. Various claims have been amended to address potential indefiniteness issues as discussed below.

Claim 1 has been amended to introduce a specific targeting sequence, SEQ ID NO:30, and claim 14 amended to remove SEQ ID NO:30. Claim 1 has also been amended to clarify that the “sample” is merely a population of cells. The remaining sequences listed in claim 14 are appropriate dependent sequences in the each includes within their sequences the specific targeting sequence of SEQ ID NO:30.

Claim 2 (currently withdrawn) has been amended to make it clear that the “population of cells” of claim 1 can be an *in vivo* population, in this case, in a human subject.

B. Indefiniteness Issues

It is believed that the present amendments address each of the indefiniteness issues set forth in the Action.

C. Written Description Issues

It is believed that the amendment to claim 14 should address the written description rejection raised by the Action.

D. Novelty

The Action next rejects several of the claims as lacking novelty over Ellerby *et al.* (“Ellerby”).

Applicants have reviewed the Ellerby sequence relied upon by the Examiner but have been unable to identify SEQ ID NO:3, nor any of the sequences set forth in claim 14, in any prostate targeting sequence. Applicants therefore respectively request withdrawal of the rejection.

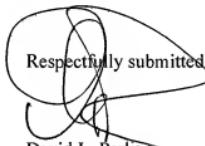
E. Obviousness Rejections

The Action lastly rejects claims 55 and 56 as obvious over Ellerby in view of Campbell *et al.* ("Campbell") and Schally *et al.* ("Schally").

In response, Applicants again note that they have reviewed the Ellerby sequence relied upon by the Examiner but have been unable to identify a peptide comprising SEQ ID NO:3 in any prostate targeting sequence. Neither Campbell nor Schally remedies this inadequacy. Thus, the Action fails to set forth a *prima facie* obviousness rejection.

F. Conclusion

It is submitted that the present claims are in condition for allowance, and rejoinder of the withdrawn claims are now in order. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.



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Date: March 7, 2008